

When the Finish Line is in Sight (Nehemiah 6: 1-19)

Proposition: In Nehemiah 6, we can all see what to expect and how to react to Satan's attacks that are sure to come when the finish line is in sight.

I. The Distraction of Conflict

- A. The Distraction of Swaying (Vs. 1-4)
- B. The Distraction of Slander (Vs. 5-7)
- C. The Distraction of Safety (Vs. 10-13)
- D. The Distraction of Secrecy (Vs. 17-19)

II. The Dedication to Construction

- A. A Resolved Dedication (Vs. 2-4)
- B. A Refusing Dedication (Vs. 2-4)
- C. A Righteous Dedication (Vs. 8)
- D. A Recognizing Dedication (Vs. 12-13)
- E. A Reliant Dedication (Vs. 9, 14, 16)

III. The Dependence for Completion

- A. The Sureness of the Will of God (Vs. 3)
- B. The Strength for the Work of God (Vs. 9)
- C. The Seeking for the Reckoning of God (Vs. 14)
- D. A Sight for the Rejoicing in God (Vs. 15-16)

When the Finish Line is in Sight Neh 6: 1-19
I'll never forget the news that came
on the TV about the crash of the
space shuttle Columbia in Feb
- 2003. A successful mission
everything went as planned. It was
just a run of the mill reentry. Crowds
were already gathered to celebrate the
success of the 2 member crew. They
were in reentry and only a few miles
and a hand full of minutes from home
when the shuttle broke up into millio
s of pieces & 7 souls went out into
eternity. They were so close when

- it all fell apart. When we left off
w/ Nehemiah they were close to finish
the wall. They had sorted thru inter
differences, and struggles and now they
are in the home stretch the finish line
was in sight. That's when Satan and his
cohorts began an assault. The same is true
with us. When the finish line is in sight
don't let Guard down. In Neh 6 we
can all see what to expect and how to
react to Satans attacks when you can see ^{the} finish

I. The Destruction of Conflict

Spurgeon said the Devil never
Ricks a dead horse. If you are going
somewhere for God, he will never stop

attempting to destrate you from destiny

A. Destratcher of Swaying - (Vs 1-4)

There are now no more branches. Wall not finished. But time growing shorter every day. Lets take about this, Lets sit down and negotiate ~~conclude~~ what God's said, Lets debate. Cool off a minute.

B. Destratcher of Slander - (Vs 5-7)

They will spread lies about you that are simply not true. They will question integrity. That's why its always important to have it! They wanted Nehemiah to put down travel march to King and say no way. Don't stop

C. Destratcher of Safety - (Vs 10-13)

This is a death threat! We are gonna kill you! We are so pampered and so relatively so little to get the world in a tizzy about, but what if we die? What if our stance on purity, Honor, ^{Decency} ~~Decency~~ ^{Death threat} ~~Alcohol~~

D. Destratcher of Secrecy - (Vs 17-19)

People that say they are your friends but you find out they ain't. Nothing more defeating and disheartening than to be betrayed. Destracting from God's work. The Building of a wall to keep a

II. Dedication to Construction

What an example we see in Nehemiah. He is a blueprint for us to follow into the work of God. Dedication into what God is doing

A. **Resolved Dedication** - (Vs 2-4) There was a rock solid resolve to complete the work that God had set before Him to do. Satan loves to distract. Would to God we would be a church w/ resolve to the work of

B. **Refusing Dedication** - (Vs 2-4) Nehemiah knew when to say No! Sometimes it is hard to say "No" to folks! But we must keep the main thing the main thing. ^{clim not} coming down to compromise, to change ^{peacefully}!

C. **Righteous Dedication** (Vs 8) - Nehemiah was an upright and unblameable. Not ^{sinless} but had integrity! He could spot that lie a mile off! And was able to tell them that came out of your heart not mine! ^{clearly}!

D. **Recognizing Dedication** (Vs. 12-13) You can be so hard at work so as to be oblivious to things around you. Basketball keep head up. Nehemiah readily recognized a trap. Only priest go in! ^{recognize traps}!

E. **A Reliant Dedicator** (13, 14, 16) - All in this chapter and the preceding chapter we find that Nehemiah's dedication is a Reliant dedication. His dedication came not from an inner strength but from his trust in God!

III. Dependence for Completion
I want to further expand on that last sub-point. Nehemiah relies or depends on God for the completion

of this great work.

A. Sureness of Will of God vs 3. This staunch refusal to be deterred had its foundations elsewhere. Its origins and strong roots were planted deeply in Ch 1. that Vision of God glorifying in all he built strong and high that God built as he will

B. Strength for the Work of God - vs 9 - He, great leader, he, hard worker, he, called by God, He was afraid. They were afraid that they were weakening. What the enemy was saying was true. He turned in dependence ^{strong} toward God! O God! When we are weak then He is

C. Seeking for the Reckoning of God - vs 14 - All these enemies that were trying to distract and deter, that he could have been arguing with and fighting with. All these enemies that he could have been plucking away. He turned them over to God. God will reckon!

D. A Sight for the Rejoicing in God (15-16) vs 15. So the wall was finished! What sweet words! Now it's chest beat time now it's "Nanana Bore Time" You can't stop me! No. It was evident that God had done the work!

IV. Close - After further investigation it was found that a piece of hard foam the size of a brief case hit the wing and caused the heat shield panel to fall off. Don't let one loose Guard destroy your panel